---== STReport International Online Magazine ==---
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"The Original 16/32bit Online Magazine"
from
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May 28, 1993 No. 9.22
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STReport International Online Magazine
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R.F. Mariano
Publisher - Editor

Voice: 904-783-3319 10 AM - 4 PM EST

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- The Editor's Desk
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-* ATARI POSTS BIG LOSSES ..AGAIN! *-
-* LEXICOR TO FOCUS SUPPORT ON CIS! *-
-* CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN GEnie's ST RT? *-
-* "FALCONWAIT" OVER! SMALL, SLOW SHIPMENTS BEGIN! *-

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STReport International Online Magazine
The Original * Independent * Online Magazine
-* FEATURING WEEKLY *-
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Current Events, Original Articles, Tips, Rumors, and Information
Hardware - Software - Corporate - R & D - Imports
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STReport's BBS, The Bounty, invites BBS systems, worldwide, to participate

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WHAT'S NEW IN THE ATARI FORUMS (May 28)

BATSUB "SEAFOX" CLONE GAME

Download file BATSUB.ARC from LIBRARY 2 of the Atari Arts Forum (GO ATARIARTS) for BATSUB, a SEAFOX clone game. Move the submarine to fire torpedoes that will sink moving ships. The program runs in low resolution with sound.

VERSION 2.01 OF SOS HANGMAN

Download file HANGM2.LZH from LIBRARY 2 of the Atari Arts Forum (GO ATARIARTS) for SoS Hangman 2.01. This is a much improved version of the recently released SoS Hangman accessory. The new version features a better looking game window,and almost 400 new puzzles in 7 categories.

SCROLLING THUNDER IN ATARIPRO

Download file SCRTH.LZH from LIBRARY 4 of the Atari Productivity Forum (GO ATARIPRO for Scrolling Thunder, a viewer or browser for text files (actually, any kind of file) with a difference. It exclusively uses hardware smooth scrolling, available only on STe/MegaSTe/TT/Falcon, to produce the smoothest, fastest display of text you've ever seen. It scrolls forward or backward at variable speed, and is almost entirely mouse-controlled.

NEW SOFTLOGIK DEMO IN ATARIVEN

Download file FLAGS.LZH from LIBRARY 11 of the Atari Vendors Forum (GO ATARIVEN) for Sample EPS (Adobe Illustrator) files of the new Flags of the World clipart collection now being sold by Soft-Logik Publishing. The archive contains four flags.

THE ATARI PORTFOLIO FORUM ON COMPUSERVE
HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AN
OFFICIAL SUPPORT SITE BY ATARI CORPORATION

"GO APORTFOLIO TO ACCESS THE ATARI PORTFOLIO FORUM"

"ENJOY CIS' ATARI FORUMS WHERE CENSORSHIP IS A DIRTY WORD!"

"""

> From the Editor's Desk "Saying it like it is!"

"""""""""""""""""""""""

This is the big weekend! Memorial Day Weekend... this is the time we are supposed to remember all the members of our armed forces who served their country well and especially those who paid for our freedom with their lives.

Now for a less serious thought. The Falcon is shipping.. slowly and in small numbers but its shipping and that's good news. Now, let's all pay close attention to the stir we hope it creates in the computing community.

This issue presents a number of interesting topics some of which are bound to peak your interest. Please have a safe holiday weekend and above all else enjoy yourselves! I know I will there's a very special Pink Floyd show here in town this weekend and a recorded show of ZZ Top and Led Zep immediately after the Floyd Laser Show. Yup, you guessed it I'll be there. <very big grin>..

Ralph....

"""

STReport's Staff DEDICATED TO SERVING YOU!

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IMPORTANT NOTICE
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Please, submit letters to the editor, articles, reviews, etc...
via E-Mail to:

Compuserve..... 70007,4454
Delphi..... RMARIANO
BIX..... RMARIANO
FIDONET..... 112/35
FNET..... NODE 350
NEST..... 90:21/350.0
GEnie..... ST-REPORT

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STR'S "BELIEVE IT? OR.. WHAT?"
<>##################################<>

"There is no comparison! The Atari Falcon
is far superior to the PC platform."

Sam Tramiel, 08/92

About the scathing Forbes Magazine Critique of Atari;

"My new office, which has a better view than my old one, is so far quite satisfactory. And Richard Miller is in my old office. The Forbes article was a mish-mash and misconstrued article full of half truths. We are anxiously awaiting the release of the Atari Falcon to bring us back to the forefront. The article has given us some laughs, but otherwise has not affected us."

Sam Tramiel, 08/92

About marketing plans and the future....

"As I said before, all marketing announcements will be made at Duesseldorf. I will not comment on future models of the Falcon.

WE ARE TALKING TODAY ABOUT A MACHINE.....
WHICH WILL BE SHIPPING NEXT WEEK."

Sam Tramiel, 08/92

A fantastic observation, considering the date it was made...

"I've just returned from Asia, where I saw the first Atari Falcon production coming off the lines. Let's hope this new offering will make it in North America. I know that the specs are great."

Sam Tramiel, 08/92

Again, the dates of the statement conflict with the facts now known....

"We have not yet even given the machine to the FCC. And we are only applying for Class B approval. According to our "experts", it should pass Class B."

Sam Tramiel, 08/92

"..... We are not working for Wall Street but to make money for our shareholders and only think long term."

Sam Tramiel, 11/92

psssst.

FYI.... The Shareholder's equity is fine.... NOT!

The Stock is hovering around $0.81

CHRISTMAS '92 has COME and GONE...
AS HAS...

JANUARY 1993, FEBRUARY 1993...

FALCONS ....anyone?

By the Way.... Does the Falcon work well
with
any... of the SLM Laser Printers?? NOPE! NOT YET!

Wanna bet there won't be any?

Better yet...

Which _MAJOR_ US Software Developers & Publishers
are
producing NEW Software for Atari's FALCON???

Besides, who _needs_ a CARTRIDGE PORT anyhow!

"The Jaguar will be released in the Fall, in time for Christmas. Sorry, I have no comment about other computers to follow the Falcon030. We don't have enough of those on the street yet to worry about the next batch in my department anyway. :)"

Bob Brodie 05/26/93

""

> ONLINE WEEKLY STReport OnLine   The wires are a hummin'!
""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""

PEOPLE... ARE TALKING

On CompuServe

compiled by Joe Mirando
73637,2262

Hidi Ho good neighbors and neighborettes, I'll put the big news right up front this week...

Ron Luks, the Boss Sysop, posts:

"In an effort to answer more of your questions concerning the new Falcon030 computer, Bill Rehbock (Director of software development) and James Grunke (Director of Atari Music) have offered to hold an online Conference.

However, considering the state of online, interactive COnferencing software, with its delays and system response, and in light of the fact that our membership in the Atari Forums is truly international and there is probably no way to pick a time that all of our members can attend, I feel that you folks deserve better value for your connect dollars.

Therefore, I have alternately suggested, and they have accepted, a proposal to do a 20-QUESTIONS format. (We may sometime in the future schedule interactive conferences, but I've been dying to try out this idea for a couple of years, so please bear with me. [grin])

A popular men's magazine (Playboy) contains a monthly celebrity interview of great length as well as a shorter feature where a popular figure is given a list of 20 questions and provides answers. Sort of a

mini-interview.

Because the questions will be prepared and submitted in advance, I will have a chance to pick the best 20 and forward them to Bill and James on Wednesday evening (May 26th). They have agreed to return the answers for online posting by Friday so you can download and read them over the Memorial Day weekend (for us Yanks).

I believe this format has the following advantages. First, even given good system response, we usually manage to ask and answer approx. 20 questions in a two hour period. If the CO is full, you may have to sit online for 2 hours just to ask one question and if its real busy, you may not get a chance to ask any.

Secondly, the sysops have to edit, spell check, and clean up the transcript anyway and past experience has shown that we get 5-20 downloads of a transcript for every 'live' attendee anyway. If you cannot attend, you have to HOPE somebody there will ask the question you want answered. This system gives EVERY member a chance to post a question in advance. I will personally accept all your questions, try to combine as many as possible into the total of 20 questions asked, and to cover as wide a range of subjects as possible.

Thirdly, we wont have to have any situations where our guests will reply with "I'll check into that and get back to you tomorrow...." We'll keep them on the hot seat. [heh heh]

I think this system will present as much information as an interactive COnference with considerably greater value for your connect dollars. You will get as much information with a few minutes downloading as you would get sitting for hours in an online conference.

Therefore I am asking every member to submit their questions for Bill and James as a reply to this message. Feel free to ask multiple questions but I will do my best to compile a set from as many different members as possible. I will take full responsibility for the ultimate questions asked, but that does not mean that you should not ask "the tough questions." In fact, I would encourage you to ask the "tough questions." Bill and James have agreed to answer whatever is submitted. I will send off the final 20 questions at 5pm EDT Wednesday, May 26th, so get yours in early. Preference will be given to questions submitted first.

If this format works as well as I anticipate, there will be more of these in the weeks and months ahead. Since our first "guests" will be Bill and James, I will ask you to narrow your questions to the new Falcon030 with a special emphasis on music/midi applications, although any Falcon030 question will be considered fair game.

And finally, in a sense of fair play and sharing with the entire Atari community, permission will be given to all Atari BBS sysops to redistribute the unedited question and answer file on their BBS systems after the first 72 hours of availability on the Atari Forums on CompuServe. We will also encourage BBS sysops to gather questions from their users and submit them through us. I will ATTEMPT but not promise to assign a users name to the final questions whenever possible, so Bill and James will know who asked any particular question.

Well folks-- you asked for direct feedback from Atari Corp and here's your chance. Send those questions in asap!"

Now that you've seen this post, we'll continue on with our regularly scheduled program.... uh, I mean, with our usual format. Gee, I guess I _AM_ watching too much television.

From the Atari Productivity Forum

Dazzz Smith replies to Ron's post about the questions for Atari:

"While I prefer the idea of detailed questions and replies I also think that CO's have their place in the scheme of things comms wise.

Wouldn't it be possible to combine the two?"

Ron, being the top-notch guy that he is, tells Dazzz:

"Okay. We'll have a CO, too. But how about sending me a couple of questions for this experiment. We'll try one or two of these files and then schedule a CO and see which works better.

Sound fair?"

Dazzz tells Ron:

"Hey don't do it on my say so, ask around, see what everyone else thinks. As another thought, why not see if its possible to do a question file for some of the other Atari houses? e.g. Atari UK, Atari Germany, Atari Australia etc."

Greg Kopchak posts:

"Forecaster III is now available for the Atari Falcon series. The program predicts the weather, offers a detailed analysis of current conditions, and plots normals by month.

It also offers a viewer for GIF weather graphics from GEnie (M461) and CIS. It plots raw radar data from WeatherBank on a US map, and displays RLE weather data from CIS.

It also displays ASCII weather graphics from both WeatherBank and CIS. CIS ASCII graphics can be displayed as a graphics plot.

Templates for graphing weather data are included for use with 123 or any spreadsheet that can read WKS or WK1 format. A set of templates for graphing with Atariworks in the .STF format is also included.

The program is Multi-Tos ready and will run on a monochrome monitor (no color GIF), Atari color monitor, broadcast TV, or VGA monitor. GIF weather graphics are great on a VGA or broadcast TV monitor.

Dealers, contact Pacific Software about upgrading your stock to the Falcon version.

Forecaster III for the Falcon is available from Randall Kopchak, It's All Relative Software, 2233 Keeven Lane, Florissant, MO 63031 for $35.00, postpaid, or ask for it at your favorite Atari dealer.

Registered users can upgrade to the Falcon version for $10.00, postpaid, from the address above."

Jonnie Santos asks about a grammar checker for the ST series:

"I use WordWriter on the ST which has a built in spell checker. I wanted a grammar checker and found an ad in Atari Interface for one. It's called GramSlam - pretty neat (and cheap too!). In that same ad they advertise a spell checker "Spelling Sentry" and a English grammar, punctuation, etc reference as well called "Grammar Expert."

The company is: Wintertree Software Inc.
43 Rueter Street
Ontario, Canada K2J 3Z9
(613) 825-6271

Brian Gockley of ST Informer tells Jonnie:

"All of those programs you mentioned are top flight! I use them everyday, and couldn't be happier with both the support and the quality."

Jonnie tells Brian:

"Except that I wanted to put a box around a document and make the title in large letter using WordWriter and couldn't. I exported it to PageStream and got the results I originally wanted.

Just for laughs I uploaded the file in ASCII format to my personal file are here and then had a Mac friend download it. They put it into PageMaker and got the same results - pretty cool (neat), eh?

Last night I loaded Norton's AntiVirus into our PC at work and it wrote a few lines into: AUTEXEC.BAT, CONFIG.SYS, WIN.INI When I rebooted something didn't take and the sucker froze... Without thinking I started to reach for the power switch on the hard drive (like I've done on my Ste) so that I could shut it off and then reboot from the defacto setup in TOS. Then shaking my head after I realized the hard disk is internal and not turn-off-able... I didn't know about "System disks" or the Ctrl-C trick after hearing the BIOS beep until after the tech bailed me out. So this evening it is with pleasure I'm using my Ste knowing I can get myself out of most any problem (the few that occur)."

Stephen Petrenko puts out a call to those more knowledgable:

"I NEED HELP PEOPLE. IT IS GETTING HARDER AND HARDER TO FIND SOFTWARE FOR

MY 520 ST. CAN YOU SOLVE THIS QUESTION FOR ME? IS THE ST COMPATIBLE WITH IBM OR ANY OTHER COMPUTERS OUT THERE THAT SEEM TO HAVE SOFTWARE READILY AVAILABLE. I FIND IT INCREASINGLY ANNOYING AND DISHEARTENING IN TRYING TO FIND PROGRAMS FOR MY ST.WHAT CAN I DO?"

Andrew Wright asks Stephen:

"What exactly are you looking for? There's little that the ST can't do. The only real restriction is the screen resolution and lack of colours which make image handling a bit weak. When you say 520, do you mean a half meg machine? I can understand your problem if that's the case - most decent s/w needs a meg or more these days.

And no, the ST isn't IBM compatible without an emulator fitted - and I wouldn't recommend that.

Let us have a list of what you want to do and I'm sure we can make a few suggestions."

Sysop Brad Hill tells Stephen:

"The difficulty in shopping for Atari software is frustrating for many of us. However, there _is_ good software out there. It's just a question of finding it. You need to be connected into the community of Atari users, since most software stores don't carry Atari programs. Fortunately, you've come to the right place <grin>. The people online here know virtually all the software which can accomplish whatever you need to get done, from desktop publishing to games. Some of it can be downloaded from our libraries, and the commercial programs can often be purchased through the mail.

Do you have specific types of programs in mind? ave you browsed in the libraries for demos of commercial programs, as well as shareware?

Let us know what you need/want, and we can probably point you in the right direction! Also, let us know if you need any help navigating the libraries, OK?"

Mike Mortilla asks...

"Dumb question # 65...

Can I attach a SCSI drive to my ST or Stacy? I heard that the Stacy was Scsi, but how would I connect the drive?

I need a Syquest 44 for a sampler and would like to use the syquest with the stacy and maybe the ST.

Any knowledgable answers would be appreciated."

One of the most knowledgable people in the Atari on-line community, Albert Dayes of Atari Explorer Magazine tells Mike:

"You will probably need ICD's LINK to hook up the Syquest to your Stacy. Also for your external hard drive it might have both a SCSI and DMA port on the back to allow daisy-chaining of DMA (asci) and SCSI devices."

Tim Myers posts this tidbit:

"Well here's the latest bad news guys.....

(BTW this is a clip from a UK Atari network called TurboNet, I hope that I haven't upset anybody by quoting from another network but it does help to quote the source of these kind of reports IMO.)

```
==========================================================================
Msg #6 / 1-11  Time: 20 May 93  19:15:30
From: Paul Civati
To  : Steve Taylor
Subj: Re: Falcon HD corruption
---------[T_ATARIS       ]-----------------------------------------------
 ST> Well, you know how I hate spreading unsubstantiated rumours but...
 ST> Several falcon owners on cix have reported HD corruption requiring
 ST> reformatting and repartitioning. They suspect this may be due to
 ST> using a ramdisk.
 ST> Also, there seems to be a bug with the NEWDESK.INF processing which
 ST> results in it being saved with garbage in it if you set up too many
 ST> different icons for different files. And by too many I mean about 15
 ST> ;-(
 ST> Roll on 4.07 says this RSN falcon owner. Yep, that's the Atari RSN.
Daron Brewood has found the latest 4.02 bug, if say C: gets full and you
try to write a file it overwrites onto D:, over the FAT's too, :-(((
I was just thinking last night that there must be one major bug that
someone still hasn't found!
Yes my 'stable version' guess is 4.07 / 4.08 too.
-Paul-
 ! Origin: Paul's V32bis Point off The Tavern BBS  London UK (100:1011/0.1)
=========================================================================="
```

Well, it is disappointing, but this stuff does happen... just look at DOS 6!

From the Atari ST Arts Forum

Steve Holt asks about utilities for his ST:

"I'm looking for an Atari utility that is the equivalent of a PC Tools or Norton for the IBMPC. Something that will un-erase files, backup, view, etc. Any ideas would be appreciated."

The ever-present Albert Dayes of Atari Explorer magazine tells Steve:

"There is a program in the (GO ATARIPRO) forum called ST-TOOLS which

provides similar capabilities to PC-Tools."

Myles Cohen tells Steve:

"Look for TOOL19.LZH in LIB 4..."

Lee at Lexicor Software tells us:

"I just heard about an article in ST FORMAT magazine that Atari has re introduced the 520 STFM. With a much lower price in England. Form what I gathered it is supposed to challenge the SEGA system and bring in baskets of cash. There are quotes from Official atari types, and several comments from both SEGA and Commodore. Seems like the wrong time to be bringing back an old machine? lets hope this has no effect on the Falcon works!"

Ron Luks replies:

"I read the same info about the 520STFM in the UK. I don’t see it as an effective challenge to the Sega Genesis or Super Nintendo, but then again, if it were priced and marketed shrewdly, it just might.

I don’t think Atari would be making moves with the STFM if it would seriously effect the Falcon effort. I’d have to think they have taken that into consideration and would only go ahead ’safely.’

One thing I have noticed as recently as this past week-- Atari Corp does seem to have a new ’zeal’ internally and they appear to be much more focused than they have been for quite a long time. I think this new focus is the most positive news I’ve heard and look forward to the results of that focus."

Sysop Brad Hill adds his thoughts:

"I don’t think the re-introduction of the STfm indicates any backing off of the Falcon effort. And I’m glad to see increased activity and enthusiasm about any of the Atari products... it seems to me it can only help the platform as a whole."

Robbie Cooke asks about the specs on Atari’s Falcon030:

"Can anyone tell me if the Atari Falcon can go above 640x480 in rez?I heard the Amiga 1200 has the 640x480 as it’s default but can go higher because of some kind of mode called interlace."

Jonathan tells us more about "that other machine":

"I don’t know about the falcon, but the Amiga 1200 can do resolutions from 320x200 all the way up to 1200x400 and has other screen modes like 800x600,

640x480, 742,486, 912x816, etc.. All of these can run in HAM8 mode which is 262,000 colors out of a pallete of 16 million."

Peter Joseph professes:

"I don’t get it all. What’s wrong with having the OS in ROM chips and just swapping chips for upgrades like we do now? It’s not expensive, and it seems just as easy as the methods you guys are proposing. I guess I must be missing something; please explain...I need input."

Sysop Bob Retelle explains the ins and outs of of operating systems on ROM chips and on disk:

"For one thing, it would be a lot less expensive if the OS was on disk.. new TOS ROMs run well over $100 when they come out.. I bought the DOS 5.0 upgrade for $39.

Another problem with a ROM based OS is that once it’s burned into silicon, it’s a lot harder to make the decision to upgrade it again in a short period of time. Masked ROMs have to be thrown away.. they can’t be re-burned. Disks could always be re-written.

Also, it’s FAR easier for the average computer user to just put a disk in the drive and type INSTALL, than to open up the computer, remove the RF shield, find the right chips, pull them out, figure out which chip goes in what socket and insert them without damaging them, then put it all back together and hope it works... or in more extreme cases, having to hack the motherboard to put a 2 chip OS in where there used to be a 6 chip set.. or having to solder in an adapter board because the new OS comes on completely foreign ROMs.

The idea of a removable, re-writable "OS on a cartridge" would go a long way toward fixing a lot of those problems. It would be a little more expensive at the initial purchase of the computer, but it would make upgrades easy and inexpensive."

From the Atari Vendors Forum

John Amsler tells Mark of SoftLogic Publishing:

"...Don’t get me wrong -- I _LOVE_ PageSTream!! If there’e ever another version released for the Atari, I’ll be first in line to get it! I just get irritated -- and, BTW, I’m a prototypical "Type ’A’" personality -- at having to wait for the thing to print. (I’ve got a HP-LJIIIp with 3 Mb of memory.)

I guess I got accustomed to things like EasyDraw, which print relatively fast."

Ron Luks posts and interesting note:

"I've been talking to some folks at Atari over the past few days and they are very, very upbeat about the status of the Falcon, which is now 'officially shipping' according to Bill Rehbock. More details to follow, hopefully provided by Atari Corp themselves."

Beth Jane Freeman adds another interesting note:

"Recently, I wrote a letter to Snapple, the soft drink company. They are one of the few companies on Long Island that manufacture something that's is completely independant of government defense contracts, and we need more such companies here. Well, within a week, I got a letter back, and it was individual, not a form letter. Enclosed was a $1.00 off coupon for Snapple That's the way you deal with customer inquiries. You thank them and reward them in a small way, at least. Snapple isn't a huge company like any of the Fortune 500 or something, but they act human. Maybe it's the all natural soda they sell. They must drink it, too."

Jim Ness tells Beth:

"This year, Snapple Lemonade is my official umpiring drink, replacing Gatorade Lemonade flavor.

Of course, the weather in the Chicago area, from April 1 until now, has been so cool, that I haven't needed to carry much Snapple..."

From the Atari Portfolio Forum

I'm going to put in a shameless plug for the Connecticut AtariFest '93 by printing this post:

"This is just a quick note to let you know some of what's being planned for our "Portfolio Corner" at the Connecticut AtariFest '93.

First off, we'll have the one thing that would make any Portfolio exhibit successful: BJ GLEASON. That's right, CompuServe's Portfolio Sysop (not to mention his being a prolific programmer).

We'll also have products on display from a lot of innovative companies and vendors such as BSE, makers of hard drives for our favorite palm-top, and MegaByte Computers, the "512k upgrade guys.

We will also have a disassembled portfolio on display for those who always wondered what the "guts" of a Portfolio look like.

In addition to the information about the show that's already been placed in the libraries throughout the ATARI forums (or is that fora?) we'll be posting info here right up to showtime (June 12/13).

Please feel free to ask questions, make suggestions, offer demos, displays, literature, or just say "hello"."

Sysop BJ Gleason replies:

"It sounds great... I'm really looking forward to it... Send me e-mail about any and all arrangements I need to make, and I'll tell you what I can bring with me...

I might be able to unveil a few new things...."

Of course, being the die-hard gadget freak that I am, I replied:

">> I might be able to unveil a few new things.... ;-) <<

COOL! Now I'm looking forward to this more than ever!"

In a bit of a departure for the Portfolio forum, BJ Gleason asks Don Thomas of Atari:

"Are the rumours true that there will be a model with a detachable keyboard?"

Don tells BJ:

"Yes, it *is* true that there *are* rumours that there will be a model with a detachable keyboard."

Mike Barney asks Marty Mankins:

"Since you work for WP, is it possible that WP would release the old word processing program in WP EXEC (the one that works on the port) to the portfolio
public in shareware or freeware form. I realize that WP EXEC isn't sold anymore. I was thinking maybe WP could release a special version that would
stop working in 30 days if the person that downloaded it didn't purchase it.

Is this a workable idea???"

Marty Mankins tells Mike:

"WP in an interesting company. They could do something like this, but all of their ventures are based on a cashflow value. If it makes a lot of money, then it'll work. If it is something that will help the small user base (200,000 or less), then they ignore it until the market increases.

As for the WP EXEC WP module, they now have stopped selling the program and don't support it. Fortunately, I got a copy before it went out.

So my answer is: I don't think WP Corp. will do what you ask. It's hard to understand, but they don't really have an interest in palmtops."

Don Thomas jumps in and adds:

"I think I understand why the lesser interest in palmtops... it's hard to justify a $395 package on a $299 machine. Although, my numbers are off, the point is there. It's business. Why dedicate resources on a $69.95 application, when the rest of your business draws so much more.

Palmtop users often require as much tech support for a $69.95 application as desktop users do for a $395 application. It's hard to tell a desktop user to hold as you finish assisting a Palmtop user.

This is an essential problem Atari has attracting dealers for the Portfolio. Even with as many units CompUSA sold, it drove them nuts that the users had as many questions as the guy who bought a $3000 system. It's tough. Mail order does fairly okay for us, since most people have a different expectation in the level of support they require when they buy through the mail."

Marty Mankins tells Don:

"Oh, I agree with the support issues, which is why WP didn't go with the Portfolio version of WordPerfect.

But, there comes a time when you should take a loss for the first little while. My guess is that if WP Corp. were to be like Lotus and write software to go in the ROM of some palmtop, then they could make some serious cash down the road. Think about it if they were to get something like the Portfolio or the HP 100LX (or both).

It's now water under the bridge, but HP did approach WP about putting s/w on a future machine (I don't know if it was the 100LX or the rumored subnotebook). When HP told them they had sold 150,000 units of the 95LX, they turned it down. HP has since sold another 150,000 units and even more world wide. And the 100LX has sold even more. And my guess is that Atari has sold about 250,000 Portfolios since it's introduction.

So while it would not be the immediate bread winner, it could turn into something great."

Don Thomas adds:

"Keep in mind that a lot of those Doctor's and students taking notes may not be looking for much more than what any built-in Editor offers on a palmtop. Usually formatting, fonts, margins, etc. are most important on formal documents a secretary prints out or what may have been transferred to a desktop.

It's hard to visualize what a document might look like on a smaller screen

and in note-taking environments, it may not be as important."

Well folks, that's about it for this week. With Falcons finally starting to hit the streets, I'm sure we'll have even more interesting stuff in the coming weeks. So tune in every week and listen to what they are saying when....

PEOPLE ARE TALKING

> CPU STATUS REPORT LATE BREAKING INDUSTRY-WIDE NEWS
  """""""""""""""""

Computer Products Update - CPU Report

Weekly Happenings in the Computer World

Issue #16

By: John Deegan

Sunnyvale, CA ATARI LICENSES CINEPAK COMPRESSION TECHNOLOGY

SuperMac Technology Inc. announced that Atari Corp. has licensed SuperMac's Cinepak advanced video compression technology. The agreement with Atari marks the fourth licensing pact for Cinepak. SuperMac's Cinepak technology serves both the electronic entertainment and computer markets. Cinepak is part of Apple Computer Inc.'s QuickTime standard. As well as Creative Labs Inc.'s digital-video developments in the PC arena. Cinepak is also available on The 3DO Co.'s upcoming Interactive Multiplayer multimedia system. Cinepak is a video compression-decompression (codec) scheme that allows each video frame to use less space than usual, while still retaining high quality colors and images.

Orem, Utah WP CORP. & OPTIUS SOFTWARE COOPERATE

Wordperfect Corporation has announced that Word Perfect 6.0 for DOS, scheduled to ship June 28, will include support forthe innovative FaxBios specification, giving users easy access to network fax resources from within WordPerfect. Optius Software, a key member of the group that developed FaxBios and a leading vendor of fax server software for Netware LANS, currently supports FAXBios in its award winning FACSys Product.

Information regarding FaxBios is available on Compuserve (go faxbios) or by sending a fax request to 1-801-222-3991. Technical specificationsa can be obtained by contacting WordPerfect Corporation 1-800-321-4566

> HIGH SPEED MODEMS STR InfoFile HELP WITH THE INSTALLATION
  """"""""""""""""""""""""""""""""

HIGH SPEED MODEMS - UARTS AND PORTS

by Robert J. Niland

reprint permission granted to STReport 05/28/93

re: What to do after the high speed modem arrives. Edition 01 Apr 93

This article applies only to Windows 3.0 and 3.1, and not to NT, OS/2 or DOS apps not running under Windows.

One of the unadvertised limitations of most current Windows PCs is that their RS-232C (serial, COM) performance is seriously deficient. Almost everyone who purchases a high-speed modem (V.32bis, V.32, PEP or HST) discovers the problem the first time they try to download a file or accept an incoming FAX (at 9600+) after upgrading the modem. Overrun and retry errors abound, even when the only active application is the datacomm or FAX program. If the transfer completes at all, it may take even longer than with the old 2400bps modem.

There are three reasons for the problem:

1. The Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitters (UARTs) used in most PCs are primitive Ns8250 devices with single-byte FIFO buffers. If the operating system/driver cannot read and flush each character at high interrupt rates, the next incoming character overwrites the FIFO and the previous one is lost. DOS, being a fairly single-minded environment during datacomm, can usually keep up. Windows can’t.

2. Windows has more operating system overhead than plain DOS, and interrupts often take longer to service. Overruns are much more likely than under DOS. As soon as you report to your PC/modem vendor that you are losing data, you may be advised that "you need to upgrade to a 16550". More likely, since there seems to be a conspiracy of ignorance about this issue, you’ll get no useful advice at all. Most of the store-front and mail-order sources I spoke with in attempting to solve my own problem had never heard the term "16550" and many didn’t even know what a UART was.

3. Even your PC has Ns16550A UARTs (and PS/2’s do), or if you can upgrade your mother/COM board or add a new COM board, you may STILL experience errors and overruns because the standard MicroSoft Windows COM drivers

don’t take full advantage of the 16550. Windows 3.1 is improved in this regard over 3.0, but I still recommend a driver upgrade. Applications like ProComm+/Win (which is what I use) cannot get around this problem by themselves.

If you have a modem CARD, you may not have a problem, as the modem part of the card can be designed to be aware of the state of the UART, and avoid overrunning it; however, I wouldn’t want to bet that the card designers were that clever, and will insist on a 16550 UART if I ever buy a modem card. Some modem cards don’t even have conventional UARTs, but if they are to work with standard Windows drivers, they need to simulate one. Use MSD.EXE (below) to see what the modem card is, or is pretending to be.

The Hardware Situation.

The UARTs on most PC COM ports are based on National Semiconductor Ns8250 or Ns16450 chips (or megacells inside VLSI chips where you can’t replace them). You can ID the UART type on your system by running the MicroSoft diagnostic program \WINDOWS\MSD.EXE. Be sure to run it in DOS *before* bringing up Windows. The Windows serial API may prevent MSD from accurately identifying a 16550 if you run it from a Windows DOS prompt.

The Ns16550 UART has separate 16-byte transmit and receive FIFOs with configurable trigger levels, and can run reliably at clock rates up to 460,800 bps, although with current modem technology, there’s no point in pushing your luck by going over 115,200 bps. The 16550 has shorted access cycle times than the 16450 or 8250. The 16550 also has DMA capability, but it is not clear that any PC drivers ever use this. For more technical info, see National Semiconductor Application Note AN-491.

So, what UART component do you have?

Try to locate the UART on your mother board, multi-function I/O card, COM board or ISA/MCA modem card. If you can’t find a socketed component with the numbers "8250" or "16450", your COM ports are probably buried in VLSI, and you won’t be able to perform a chip replacement. If you can DISABLE your VLSI COM ports (as I chose to do), you can at least add an aftermarket COM board.

If you have one or more socketed 8250 or 16450 chips, you can buy plug-in Ns16550AFN or PC16C550CN (low power CMOS version) ICs from several suppliers typically for $9 to $15 each. The "N" chip is the normal 40-pin dual-in-line package. Other styles are available, but avoid any Ns16550 chips without the "A" (the 16C550C are presumably all OK).

Early Ns chips have bugs, although National will reportedly exchange those of their own manufacture for free. Clone chips are available from various IC makers other than National. The manual for the TurboCom drivers states support for the following (apparently equivalent) chips:

National Semiconductor:	16550A, 16551, 16552
Chips&Technology:	82C607
Texas Instruments:	t16c550a
Silicon Systems:	73M550
VLSI	16C550

TurboCom warns about the pre-"A" Ns16550 and Western Digital 16C550, says that problems have been reported with early IBM PS/2 55SX and 70 systems (IBM reportedly will upgrade them).

If you DON’T have socketed 8250/16450 chips, you’ll need to buy an after-market COM or multi-function board. If this is a modem card situation, you may be hosed. To add a new COM or multi-function card, you’ll need to either disable the COM1/2 port(s) you are replacing, or re-assign them to COM3/4 (although watch out for IRQ conflicts without TurboCom).

Although cheaper cards are available, in the interest of getting the problem solved quickly I elected buy the Modular Circuit Technology MCT-AIO+ card from:

JDR Microdevices
2233 Samaritan Drive
San Jose CA 95124
(800) 538-5000 voice US
(408) 559-1200 voice other
(800) 538-5005 FAX US

The MCT-AIO+ (and the "+" is important) sells for $89.95. It is an 8-bit ISA card providing:

Port Type	Connector	Address and IRQ	Comments
COM	DB9M	COM 1,2,3 IRQ 2,3,4,5	Ns16550AFN in socket
COM	ribbon	COM 2,3,4 IRQ 2,3,4,5	Ns16550AFN in socket
Parallel	DB25F	LPT1,2,3 IRQ 5,7	
Game	ribbon		

The kit includes a ribbon cable and DB25F connector for the secondary COM port, a ribbon cable/connector for the game port, two bulkhead plates for the ribbon-based connectors and a 9F-to-25F adaptor cable. Each port can be individually disabled, and the COM ports have TX, RX, RTS, CTS, DTR, DCD, and DSR jumpers.

JDR also sells a Super-I/O m-f card that also has IDE.

I have heard from several people about less expensive m-f I/O cards with 16550s:

TSD Systems
(407) 331-9130
$19.95 for the card, plus $9.95 per 16550.

Greenfield Trading and Distributors
(518) 271-2473 (voice), (518) 271-7811(FAX).
Their card is $33 w/one 16550, $45 w/2, and they sell 16550AFNs for $13.

R&S DATA SYSTEMS, INC.
820 East Highway 434
Longwood, FL 32750
PHONE: (407) 331-1424
FAX: (407) 331-8606
2COM/LPT/Game card w/2 16550s for $39

I have no personal experience with any of the firms except JDR.

Meanwhile, back at the MCT card from JDR... I only needed two serial ports, and am running out of IRQs on my PC, so I disabled my built-in VLSI-based

8250 ports. However, with the TurboCom driver (below), I could have set the internals as COM3 and 4, using IRQ sharing.

The Software Situation

Simply upgrading to 16550 UARTs will not completely solve common overrun problems. The standard MS serial drivers don't take full advantage of the 16550. The Windows 3.0 drivers are even less capable, and the Windows 3.1 drivers have the following limitations:

- They enable only the receive FIFO, and only at rates above 2400 bps.
- They never enable the transmit FIFO, which results in an interrupt rate of 10x during uploads.
- They set the trigger level at 14 bytes (too high - it's easy for 2 more bytes to arrive before the driver can read the FIFO).
- The Ports menu of the Control Panel only allows speeds up to 19200. With a V.32bis modem, sparse data and text can easily compress 3:1 or more, suggesting that a host DTE connect rate of 57,600 bps would be effective.
- The API won't accept rates above "CBR_128000".
- The API won't let DOS programs know there is a 16550 there, and even if it did, DOS programs that aren't 16550-aware get little benefit from a 16550 port with the standard drivers.
- They don't allow IRQ sharing for COM3,4.
- The BIOS doesn't initialize COM3,4 properly in many systems.
- Windows provides no workaround for apps that don't provide port speed options above 19200 bps.

These problems are reportedly NOT solved in Windows NT or DOS 6.0, and may or may not be addressed in any Windows releases after 3.1 (but before 4.0). Rumors suggest they "may" be solved in Windows "4.0".

You can get replacement drivers that solve all of those problems by buying a copy of "TurboCom", current version 1.2, from:

Bio-Engineering Research
Pacific CommWare Division
180 Beacon Hill Lane
Ashland OR 97520-9701
(503) 482-2744 voice
(503) 482-2627 FAX
(503) 482-2633 BBS
MCImail: 344-5374
CompuServe: 71521,760

Price was around $50 as I recall. Bio-Eng is not set up to accept credit cards, so I had to send a check. Egghead and 1-800-Software list TurboCom but as far as I know, they don't stock it. Bio is not a software company per se. They apparently needed reliable hi-speed serial connections for an in-house instrument application, wrote their own driver, discovered a market for it, revised it to be a general purpose COM driver suite. They recently upgraded it for Windows 3.1. It is run-time licensed.

I now have my host (DTE) connect rate set to 57,600 bps most of my datacomm apps, and I am having ZERO problems with downloads. I routinely see transfer rates that exceed 2,000 bps. I am also using 115,200 bps when linking an HP95LX to my PC, with lossless bi-directional I/O. Uploads to various remote systems are another matter, because many hosts are still using antique UARTs and drivers.

Note that 19200 is still the highest rate that the Windows 3.1 Port menu in Control Panel will allow in configuring a COM port. TurboCom gets around this by allowing you to specify, on each port, a factor that will set the real UART rate to a multiple of the rate passed through the Windows APIs and dialog boxes.

I also have CTS/RTS hardware flow control enabled, and I suggest that you do the same. Even if you only ever transfer 7-bit ASCII data, Xon/XOff is not a sufficiently reliable method of flow control. The informal (DEC) standard for Xon/Xoff hysteresis is that the sender may transmit another 16 (yes, sixteen) bytes after receipt of the Xoff from the receiving system or device. The 16 byte FIFO in the 16550 is clearly not big enough to let us rely exclusively on Xon/Xoff. A well-respected datacomm engineer has informed me that the 16550's can't really do CTS/RTS all by itself in the DOS/Windows environment, so using data rates above 115,200 may still be risky.

Even with hardware flow control, a 16550 with TurboCom can still experience overruns in very busy systems, with lots of apps running and serious swapping in progress. If this is your situation, you may need to buy a co-processed COM board, but this will cost you more than a

16550/TurboCom upgrade. A review of two such boards, and a review of TurboCom, can be found in the Feb'93 issue of "Windows Sources" magazine. I suggest trying a 16550/TurboCom upgrade first, and experiment with process priorities and time slices if you are a "power user" whose thrashing system still runs into comm problems.

Closing Soapbox Comments

The state of RS-232C serial datacomm support is an embarrassment across the computer industry. Because it is the oldest standard I/O interface, the job of designing hardware and writing software often seems to be assigned to the least senior or lowest ranked engineers at computer companies. The design of the average serial port is at least ten years behind the state of the art. In my last job, with a major workstation vendor, I lobbied for improved serial ports when they were doing the initial designs of a new system. That family of machines was subsequently introduced with 16550 ports. However, this is the exception. Few computer companies seem to have any champions for decent I/O.

You may as well learn what you can about serial I/O, because this situation shows no sign of improving soon. When V.FAST arrives, I expect cries of outrage from Windows users world-wide whose 8250 PCs "sort of" work today with V.32, but will fail miserably with V.FAST. Without a hardware-buffered UART (like the 16550) and without software drivers that use that UART to best advantage, a V.FAST modem will be a waste of money.

Regards,

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TOP TEN DOWNLOADS (5/26/93)

(1) STREPORT 9.21 5/21/93
(2) ZNET9315, 5/7/93
(3) AEO: VOLUME 2 - ISSUE 10
(4) DC XTRACT PLUS 2.2
(5) GEM-VIEW
(6) MASTERBROWSE 1.0
(7) SPEED OF LIGHT 2.5
(8) BRODIE9.ARC
(9) DTMT 1.01
(10) HANGMAN ACCESSORY

All of the above files can be found in the RECENT ARRIVALS database for at least one week after the posting of this list. Please Note that in the case of online magazines, only the most current issue in the database at the time of this compilation is considered for the Top 10 list. Also, for all files, a submission is eligible for the Top 10 list for only four weeks after its original uploading.

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> A FRESH OUTLOOK! STR Feature A few GOOD Ideas??

ATARIANS TRYING TO HELP ATARI

by Robert Dytmire

Since my article in STReport 9.20 I have received some very enthusiastic responses. Some questions were raised on how feasible the takeover of Atari really is. Well, if Atari goes to federal bankruptcy court and we, the users have bundled together a recovery plan AND some support from a major backer (Xerox is now a stockholder in Atari!). If Warner Communications could be convinced to support us, then the money issues take care of themselves. What these companies will want to see is a strong business plan and lots of support from the people involved. That means FIRM support of my general business plan, and ACTIVE participation from ALL the Atari users left. After all, several major companies have been bought out by their employees, why not a user group buying out Atari.

Some Details:

* Our purchasing power as a user group is, at the moment, rather limited. On the good side (for us) Atari's stock is now valued at $.88/share. That means $88 bucks will buy 100 shares! Now multiply that by 100,000 users we're talking 100,000,000 shares of stock (enough to control, maybe even buy outright-I'm having a broker check out the details) the

company. Now, in my last article, I said you only needed to invest $15-$20 bucks apiece. I still stand by that for the following reasons:

1) If (when) Atari drives themselves into the ground the stock will be worth much less than $0.88/share. It could be bought for as little as $.10/share if Atari really screws up.

2) We only need to show that we are SERIOUS about this project and raise some REAL money and we'll be able to attract investors. Remember, it's Atari with the bad name, not us.

3) These big companies have no wish to lose money with Atari. If they see we're serious and think we can increase the value of their stock then they will be willing to take additional steps to secure their investment (namely, supporting us!).

EVERY USER COUNTS! I cannot stress this enough. Letters, organizers are NEEDED! If you have never done anything active in the Atari community, if you're reading this in a depressed Atari Community and you feel alone, and if your thinking of going Big Blue then HELP US and HELP YOURSELF! If you are a professional of some sort I NEED YOUR ADVICE! Please don't send any money until I can square away the legal aspects of this project. Organization is needed most RIGHT NOW, EVERY DAY COUNTS and I cannot continue this on my own.

If you know any investors have them contact one of the people on the list at the end of this article and they'll be happy to answer any questions they might have.

Some more details:

I think the best way to go will be for all of us to decide when and how much stock we will purchase. We then elect amongst ourselves a leader who will then be given proxy to vote with our shares. This will, in effect, allow us to control Atari through it's stock. You, the user, will form a block that effectively owns Atari corp. Later, when we've started to re-build, we can issue new stock and re-build the company.

Potential investors:

* Many professionals are always looking for a good deal, even if it involves some risk. Show my articles to your doctor/lawyer/boss and ask if they want to get involved. If they do, show them how to contact me and I'll be happy to work with them.

* Some large direct vendors of IBM clones are taking a beating in the current computer market. Our project may be just what they need to revive themselves. If our business plan is put together correctly, we stand a good chance of attracting a large, established, corporation as a partner in investment.

Additional comments:

* I have read Atari's dealer contract. This contract is probably one of the reasons Atari has such a hard time breaking into the market. I wouldn't sign the thing as written. I admire the current set of dealers all the more because of the risk of potential for loss they are taking (by Atari Corp itself!). One of the first things I would like Atari to do is hire a large customer support/tech staff and re-write that awful dealer agreement.

* The Falcon is an AWESOME machine, but I would like to tell you all a little story (and remember my last article):

In walked a couple looking to spend quite a chunk of money on a new system. They looked at the 386 system and then were shown the new Atari Falcon. The Falcon was shown very expertly to these folks. It's graphics, and built-in windowing features were displayed to perfection. Atari Works (which is the first piece of decent software out of Atari in years) drew their attention. The sale was all but made (I overheard the wife saying "I WANT it!") UNTIL then husband asked the fatal question: "Can it run EXCEL?". After it was admitted the machine could not (at least not without an expensive emulator) they lost interest in the machine.

Why bring this up? Because it supports my argument that Atari MUST get the BIG TIME software houses supporting their platform AT ALL COSTS! Many users could care less if the machine preforms better than the box over there if the machine cannot run that nifty program that the box can (the old Beta/VHS story). Atari is rapidly painting itself into the BETA corner and can only get out my MASSIVE MASSIVE customer support and a re-tailoring of it's machines. Atari needs a customer support service that is second to none and a very liberal dealer agreement (they should go so far as to GIVE a demo unit to EVERY dealer). They NEED to get a contract with WAL-MART or K-Mart and most of all, they need to stop living in surreal world of their own design.

Contact points:

Robert Dytmire
633 Pony Farm Road.
Jacksonville, NC 28540
(919)-347-2202

G. Allan Mangam
50 Prince Drive
Maumelle, AR 72120

Note: I could use some more regional contact points (Duh!). If you are interested then contact me pronto!

Note: Dropix ST will be out within 30 days!!

Final note: This article may be published freely (PLEASE!) as long as it appears in it's entirety and the contents are not edited.

> CT FEST'93 STR SHOW NEWS

The Summertime Atari Event!

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JUNE 12 & 13, AT THE WINDSOR COURT HOTEL

WINDSOR, CT. (JUST ABOVE HARTFORD)

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CONNECTICUT SHOW TO FEATURE ATARI'S LATEST ENTRY

HARTFORD, Conn. (April 12)

More than 1,000 Atari computer enthusiasts are expected to converge here June 12 and 13 at Connecticut AtariFest '93, and are certain to debate whether the star of the show -- THE LONG-AWAITED FALCON030 COMPUTER -- lives up to its advance billing.

Yep, that ACT Atari Group is running another major NorthEast computer event. Last year's successful CT Fest had over 700 attendees, which merited a larger location, so we've moved a mile away (exit 42 on I-91) into bigger and better quarters. We're just as convenient to reach as ever, and only two hours from Boston or New York! The new hotel has excellent room rates ($35.00 per room), free and plentiful parking, easy access from Interstate 91, I-95, I-90, I-84, I-80, an in house Sports Bar, a bigger ballroom and is located just 1 mile from Bradley International Airport (free shuttle service for hotel guests).

The Falcon030 is a perfect low cost tool for the professional artist, with 8 track, 16 bit musical capabilities, truecolor graphics and a 32 bit DSP chip. The Falcon will be bundled with several music programs, including a 4 track 'Direct to Disk' editing and recording program, a sound sampler and an all purpose productivity package called AtariWorks.

The Hartford show will likely be one of the first encounters the general public has with the new machine and software leading designers have produced for it. Atari was performing quality control tests on the latest production models shipped to the Sunnyvale headquarters in mid-April.

The two-day event will feature more than 40 exhibitors, including several of the top names in music software development and MIDI equipment. Tentative music exhibitors include Barefoot Software (formerly Hybrid Arts), Digital F/X, Steinberg/Jones, Pro Musica, Compo Software and others. The show, sponsored by ACT Atari Group, will be held at the Windsor Court Hotel, just off Interstate 91 at exit 42.

Connecticut AtariFest'93 promises to showcase the work of several musicians and will include some live music sessions.

Other vendors will demonstrate new equipment and software that will be of interest to musicians whether they're on or off the job. Among them, organizers have received tentative nods from A&D Software, ABC Solutions, Baggetaware, Barefoot Software, Compo Software, Computer Studio, Derric Electronics, East Hartford Computer Repair, Gribnif Software, ICD Inc., MegaType Software, Soft-Logik Publishing, Toad Computers, Wizztronics. Last year 14 user groups participated, and that number is expected to grow by

June.

A Home Business and Entertainment Expo that will focus on high-tech gadgetry designed for home use is also planned. Central activities will include a New England Lynx Tournament for the gamester in the family, a Portfolio corner for the on-the-go palmtop computer user, and other technology such as VCRs, lap/palmtops, voice messaging systems, satellite receivers, CD-ROM, fax-modems, large screen TV, printers, audio-video components, cellular phones, office supplies, video games or add-on units and accessories.

We'll have our annual New England Lynx Competition, with multiple Comlynxed competitions underway at all times. Last year's winners took home prizes ranging from games to accessories to complete Lynx Systems! Bring your best player and join the fun.

We'll have the Portfolio Corner, staffed with industry pundits and filled with every imaginable palmtop peripheral! Last year we had a few Portfolios disassembled at the booth, a real insight into surface mount technology!

For those of you with an eye towards seminars, we'll have them in abundance, last year's question and answer session with Bob Brodie drew standing only crowds! In addition, we had John Eidsvoog's walk through the Codehead graphic tools, Jeff Naideau of Barefoot Software showing off EdiTrack Platinum, Dave Troy of (Guess[ribbet]) Computers, STReport's Dana Jacobson and Joe Mirando and many, many others.

And to top things off, come out and see the Falcon 030 in all its glory. By then we expect to see some rad new programs out and some really excitement! All in all, we hope to have the best Northeast show yet, and we look forward to your participation. Make your plans now for the most exciting Atari Weekend this spring!

For further information, call Brian Gockley at 203-332-1721 or Doug Finch at 203-637-1034. We can also be found on GEnie in Category 11 or on Compuserve in the Atari Forums. E-mail can be directed to B.GOCKLEY or D.FINCH7 on GEnie or to 75300,2514 or 76337,1067 on CIS.

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:HOW TO GET YOUR OWN GENIE ACCOUNT:

Set your communications software to Half Duplex (or Local Echo)
Call: (with modem) 800-638-8369.
Upon connection type HHH (RETURN after that).
Wait for the U#= prompt.

Type: XTX99587,CPUREPT then, hit RETURN.

GEnie costs only $4.95 a month for unlimited evening and weekend access to more than 100 services including electronic mail, online encyclopedia, shopping, news, entertainment, single-player games, and bulletin boards on leisure and professional subjects. With many other services, including the biggest collection of files to download and the best online games, for only $6 per hour.

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE! Any time during your first month of membership if

you are not completely satisfied, just ask for your $4.95 back.

GEnie Announcements (FREE)

1. Monday, May 31 is a GEnie Holiday.....
2. GEnie Announces Rate Restructure Effective July 1, 1993.....*NEWRATES
3. NEW Consumer Electronics RT on-line for ALL your questions..CE
4. Gladiatorial Games -- Saturday, May 29th.....GEMSTONE
5. Religion and Sex: Mix with care.....RELIGION
6. Reptile and Exotic Species Trivia and Chat RTC Friday In....PET
7. FREE RTC 5/30: New products and live shortwave listening....RADIO
8. RTC 6/2: Your rights as a computer user with a NY D.A. in...VIRUS
9. 2 Chances to Play Disney RTC Trivia - ONE for FREE in.....FLORIDA
10. We don't just talk your ASCII off in the GE-MUG RTC.....MAC
11. Hurry - Grab these commercial games before it's too late....SOFTCLUB
12. WordPerfect 6.0 introduced; over 500 Clip-Art volumes on....WP
13. The latest in Usenet "source" postings archived daily in....UNIX
14. New McAfee Anti-Virals now available for download in the....VSRT
15. HP 100LX palmtop computer, the latest in hot products, on...LAPTOPS

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|      || |_ | |__| |__ |    || |\/| || |_
|__/\__||___||____/____/|____||/   |/ |___|           RoundTable
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Your Host and Chief Sysop
Jerry Pournelle.....JERRYP [Chaos Master]

First Assistant Sysop
Gary R. Utter.....GARY.UTTER [RT Manager]

Second Assistant Sysop
Timothy Pleasant.....T.PLEASANT [RT Archivist]

Third Assistant Sysop
Bill Dooley.....Bill.Dooley [RT Assistant]

Chief Librarian
R.B. (Brad) Andrews.....R.B.ANDREWS [RT Librarian]

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> GEnie Announces NEW PRICE STRUCTURE STR FOCUS!
"""

GENIE ANNOUNCES NEW PRICING:
SIMPLER, MORE AFFORDABLE AND, AS ALWAYS,
THE BEST VALUE ONLINE

An Open Letter to GEnie Subscribers
From John Barber, General Manager of GEnie:

On July 1st, a new pricing structure goes into effect at GEnie. It's a big day for us -- the result of months of planning, number-crunching, monitoring and maneuvering around the competition.

And once again, we're looking forward to showing the online community that no one offers a better value than GEnie.

We have to admit that over the last few months, it's been difficult to watch the other major online companies, one after another, proclaim that their new prices make them "the ultimate value."

But rest assured, we do not intend to give up our leadership position as the best value online.

GEnie has always offered its subscribers the best combination of sophisticated services, information, entertainment -- and affordability.

And we've done it once again. Starting July 1st, GEnie will offer you the lowest hourly connect time of all the major online services; combined with a highly-competitive monthly subscription fee; and credit each month for up to four hours online.

Effective July 1st, this is GEnie's new U.S. pricing structure:

- Our monthly subscription fee becomes $8.95 a month.
- Our standard hourly connect rate drops to $3.00 an hour.
- And every month, you'll get a credit for up to 4 hours of standard $3.00 connect time.

It's about that simple. For our Canadian and international PDN customers, a complete price chart is available as menu option #2 on this page. It also contains the fine print regarding prime time, baud rates, etc., so it's worth taking some time to look over.

SIMPLY BETTER

You might notice one more important benefit to our plan.

We kept it simple. It's easy to understand, easy to live with. For starters, we've simplified the pricing. All the services formerly in GEnie*Basic and in GEnie Value are now treated equally, and available at the same low price -- $3.00 an hour in non-prime time.

Multi-player games, downloading, computing bulletin boards, real-time conferences -- they're all just $3.00 an hour. (Half what you've been paying for GEnie Value services!)

GEnie*Basic services, yes, they're now included in the $3/hour group, too.

GE Mail -- it's $3.00 an hour, with no limit to the number of messages. Internet Mail is now $3 an hour, with no registration fee. And don't forget. You also get a credit for up to four hours of $3/hour time, every month.

OK, NOW WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO MY MONTHLY BILL?

Let's cut to the chase. This is what everyone really wants to know.

The answer is -- for the majority of our users, it means very little change at all, or a change for the better.

When we started working on the price change, we studied the usage patterns of our active members to see who would be affected, and to what extent. We concluded that more than 85% would see about the same or lower bills at the end of the month.

For the people who like to keep to a strict budget each month, this plan offers a lot of flexibility and a broader range of services than before.

You have a set subscription fee. And for that fee, you get a credit for four hours of standard connect time to spend just about anywhere on GEnie.

There's no asterisk-chasing to make sure you haven't strayed into Value services. Less worry of credit card shock. You can even explore areas of GEnie you thought you couldn't afford before.

For the active users who spend significant hours a month on GEnie, especially in the former GEnie Value services, you should see a tremendous savings. The hourly rate is half what it was before -- and the best in the business!

Now -- who will see prices rise under the new system? Generally speaking, anyone who's accustomed to making unusually heavy use of GEnie*Basic services will have to change his or her usage to keep monthly bills down.

SO WHY CHANGE?

Maybe you're wondering why we're bothering to change the rate, if so few people are affected. After all, GEnie has had flat fee pricing for three years now.

Well, we did it for a couple of reasons. With our new pricing, we can continue to stay competitive in the marketplace, and we can continue to improve our service to you.

We found that, under the former pricing, a small number of our customers were making heavy demands on our service -- demands which began to outpace our infrastructure and capacity. The result was a level of performance that pleased no one. Not you. Not us. And yet, while other companies were eliminating or reducing their flat-rate access, we were holding to ours.

Something had to change. And a price restructuring was the best solution for the majority of our users.

Now, with the new rates, no one group of members is unduly favored; GEnie can continue to stay highly competitive among online companies; and we can continue to improve our service to you.

OTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE WORKS

There are other changes involved here besides our prices. "Staying competitive" means offering you better products, better service and better system performance.

Right now, we have a number of improvements in the works. We're developing new front-end software packages for Windows and Macintosh systems -- look for more on that over the coming months. We're making technical improvements to enhance our performance and speed. We'll be adding new services soon, along with new bulletin boards and of course, we'll continue to update our software libraries with more valuable files.

SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE

GEnie has always been the very best service for people who really enjoy being online, and who expect great products and the best value for the time they spend with us.

That's not going to change. In fact, this new pricing structure should make it even easier for you to enjoy everything we have to offer. We're looking forward to seeing you online.

Sincerely,

John Barber
General Manager, GEnie

G E n i e P r i c i n g
(effective July 1, 1993)

GEnie Services	U.S. (U.S.$) [5]	CANADA (CAN $)
Monthly Subscription Fee	$8.95/month	$10.95/month
Hours Credited Per Month [1]	Up to 4 hours	Up to 4 hours
Hourly Connect Charge	$3.00/hour	$4.00/hour
GEnie Premium Services	Prices vary per individual service. These include: Charles Schwab Brokerage Services (not available in Canada), Dow Jones News/Retrieval (R), The Official Airline Guides Electronic Edition (R) Travel Service, QuikNews clipping service, Telebase Investment ANALY$T (SM),ARTIST (R) gateway.	

Additional Charges (where applicable) [4]

Prime Time Surcharge [2]	$9.50/hour	$12.00/hour
9600 Baud Surcharge	$6.00/hour	$8.00/hour

Communications Surcharge:		
800 Service [3]	$6.00/hour	--
Extended Network	$2.00/hour	--
SprintNet	$2.00/hour	--
Datapac	--	$6.00/hour

[1] Credit for up to 4 hours of standard $3.00 U.S. ($4.00 CAN$) connect time. Hours credited apply to current month only.
[2] Prime-time: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. local time on weekdays only. The prime-time surcharge is in addition to $3/hour charge. Prime-time surcharge is waived for selected holidays. Residents of Hawaii, Alaska, Indiana, Arizona and Puerto Rico, please verify hours with GEnie Client Services.
[3] "800" Service surcharge waived at 9600 baud.
[4] State taxes will apply in some areas.
[5] International PDN subscribers billed in U.S.$ at U.S. rates.

Other notes:

1. There will no longer be additional charges or registration fees for Internet mail gateway use.

2. Club pricing options will be eliminated effective July 1.

Editor Note:

OF COURSE, OPINIONS ABOUND RELATIVE TO THE NEW RATE CHANGES BY GENIE.

55100 26-MAY 01:57 General Information
Competition drops prices... sorta
From: BIBLINSKI To: ALL

It appears that GEnie has changed (or is about to) their pricing structure. The low GEnie Star service fee has been eliminated, and a minimum $8.95 per month fee has been instituted. The monthly minimum includes 4 hours, and additional hours are $3. While that does get them down some, the 20/20 plan here is still less expensive for those who find themselves spending much time online.

One of the major impacts the price restructuring will have is that there may be a lot of non-computer specific RT users who will opt to switch to DELPHI. When the price was so low for unlimited usage, they could spend a lot of time online with GEnie, and not feel it in the pocketbook. That will no longer be true. So, traffic here on DELPHI overall will likely increase, which may slow the system down a bit, especially if there are hardware problems. I haven’t heard anyone in DELPHI’s management express any anxiety over the hardware (since they significantly increased the storage space here recently), so I don’t anticipate any repeats of what we were experiencing a few weeks ago. There are still a few changes in process (the transparent kind), so Murphy still has a chance to interfere, but in the end, DELPHI will be a stronger, hopefully faster, system.

--Gordie <maybe Lloyd will be back?!> Meyer

55106 26-MAY 06:02 General Information
Genie Price Structure
From: FBELT To: ALL

I wonder if the new $8.95 fee will let you get into the Atari area with the four hour time limit? Genie is a good service, can download stock quotes into charting program, Sienfeld and Rush Limbaugh BB's, but Delphi is better. The advantage plan can not be beat.

Does anyone use Internet? If yes, what for? I signed up for a couple of months and couldn't find anything on there that I wanted to do?

55107 26-MAY 08:24 General Information
RE: Genie Price Structure (Re: Msg 55106)
From: ISDMARKETING To: FBELT

The flat fee of US $8.95 is system wide and, as Gordie mentioned earlier, includes 4 hours of connect time, also system wide. Any additional time spent online will be charged at $3.00 an hour, down from $6.00 an hour. For those that used GEnie's so-called Value services, their prices just dropped in half or better. For those that spend all their time in GEnie's Basic services, from July 1, the price will go up for them. The Atari RT on GEnie is a Value service so their prices just dropped in half. For those that spend less than 4 hours online, there will no doubt be a substantial savings. It is an aggressive move by GEnie which should accomplish more than one purpose. As Gordie also mentioned Delphi could get their share of those people that were on GEnie stricktly in the basic service areas for free and would now have to pay. Whether that is good or bad, I don't know. ;-)

Sincerely

Nathan

55119 26-MAY 18:46 General Information
RE: Competition drops prices... sorta (Re: Msg 55100)
From: SCOTTJ To: BIBLINSKI

Gordie, I feel the same way. I think a lot of people will move to Delphi or to NVN , the new kid on the block thanks to this rate increase.

Scott Corley

> CONFLICT OF INTEREST? STR Spotlight NON-PARTIAL - UNBIASED FOR ALL?
"""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""

CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN ST RT?
NON-PARTIAL, UNBIASED DEALINGS FOR ALL?

by Ralph F. Mariano

An editorial essay

Sure, there'll be those that will say I have a "very special reason" for writing this article and they'll be 100% correct. Truth is truth. Let's look at a few points of interest; In the past four years, the Atari ST RT area on GEnie, under the guidance of Darlah Hudson Pine Potechin, has focused on a number of developer/dealer/consumer situations with great gusto. Among those having been spotlighted in the ST RT are; Computers Plus, Computrol, Tech Specialities, Zephyr Computers, Avant-Gard (PC Ditto), ST MicroWorld, AIM Magazine, ABCO Computers and most recently, Fast Technology. Of the above listed firms, only a few are still in business. Each and every one of them were spotlighted in Darlah's area under extremely unfavorable conditions.

Avant-Gard took advance orders on a product called PC-Ditto, they ultimately disappointed a very large number of customers who order the product and when they received it either didn't work or wouldn't fit in the machine it was intended for. It was a sad and very lengthy situation with incessant delays and non-delivery. Its been rumored there were well over one hundred unhappy consumers with this happening. This "incident" was allowed to run for well over six months in the ST RT with the adverse publicity slowly eroding customer confidence week by week. Zephyr and MicroWorld, both companies belonging to one person, Bill Yerger, was also allowed to be taken to task not once but twice! The second time in less than a year. Tech Specialities also raked over the coals in Darlah's area enjoyed equal "lynch mob" treatment. Now comes ABCO, owned and operated by me. Abco was given a "topic all of its own". But only after the topic it was being discussed in went awry. That makes TWO topics for ABCO. While there should be no problem with objective reporting, STReport finds that this is NOT the case in DARLAH'S ST RT. ABCO has been drawn, quartered, roasted and thoroughly toasted for the last six months in her RT. Has there been any end? Heaven Forbid! Instead participation in the festivities is encouraged. Like each and every other firm who "enjoyed" Darlah's unique and special treatment, their business certainly did not grow and prosper.

Now all of a sudden, one of the well over one hundred persons who've prepaid for a Tiny Turbo or a Turbo 25 from Fast Technologies jumps up and complains about having to wait for over a year... the Topic is opened and "quietly" closed in the span of less than a weekend! And the maneuver was done with the customer's permission. (could it possibly be because the customer was hoping for speedy delivery or a refund?) In any case we respectfully submit that this WAS NOT equal and fair treatment on Darlah's part. After all,... the Abco topic is STILL open and the ranting goes on and on and on by the same old, familiar harpies. Will Darlah ever learn to treat everyone equally? Its doubtful.

STReport presents last week's opening overview of the events relating to Fast Tech and the prepaid orders for Tiny Turbo and T-25s.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES!

by R. F. Mariano

The following posts were gleaned from both Delphi's and GEnie's Atari areas to indicate a trend that's been slowly developing in the Atari community. It appears that a number of complaints are beginning to surface relative to a number of developer and dealer time frames in delivering their products. At this point in time, after having had first hand experience in these matters, one can only hope that common sense and patience be brought to bear in these tough times.

The accusation that "such and such" or "so and so" is a _rip-off_ is an outrage. Until such time as it can be proven beyond a shadow of a doubt in a court of law, these accusations are a complete menace to the Atari platform and other, financially stable developers. Sure, there's serious delays and broken promises involved, but one must understand the conditions under which these situations develop.

from Delphi's Atari area
54924 19-MAY 19:45 General Information
Fast Technology
From: BCHOPICK To: ALL

FAST TECHNOLOGY RIP-OFF!

I would like to let all of you know the troubles I have experienced with FAST TECHNOLOGY. As you know, FAST TECHNOLOGY sells hardware accelerator cards for the ATARI line of computers. In APRIL of 1992 I ordered a TINYTURBO030 for my MEGASTE. The ad claimed 6-8 weeks delivery. I waited and waited and waited! Of course the check was cashed immediately (APRIL 28th, 1992). I called once a month and everytime got the same thing. DELAYS! DELAYS! DELAYS! Finally in March of 1993 I was fed up with the delay nonsense and demanded a refund. Jim Allen said that he was having financial trouble and could not issue a refund til the end of the month. I thought nothing of it and figured that since I have waited this long for the product, why not a couple of weeks for a refund. Well. Here we are May 10th (2 months later) and no refund. Calls to FAST TECHNOLOGY only lead tofrustration. All you get is an answering machine and no return phone calls. It sure looks to me that JIM ALLEN does not know how to handle a business. And I feel sorry for all the other people he is dragging along the same path. Of course, I have already contacted the Better Business Bureau of Pennsylvania. They said that I would have to fill out some forms and they will get right on it. I am not happy with the situation at all. And for a man who keeps such a high profile in the ATARI COMMUNITY, it is pathetic!

Robert A. Chopick

GENIE: R.CHOPICK DELPHI: BCHOPICK
WORK: 717-288-6140

From GEnie's Atari Area
Atari-ST RoundTable

Category 18, Topic 11
Message 1 Wed May 19, 1993
R.CHOPICK [Bob] at 20:12 EDT

FAST TECHNOLOGY RIP-OFF!

I would like to let all of you know the troubles I have experienced with FAST TECHNOLOGY. As you know, FAST TECHNOLOGY sells hardware accelerator cards for the ATARI line of computers. In APRIL of 1992 I ordered a TINYTURBO030 for my MEGASTE. The ad claimed 6-8 weeks delivery. I waited and waited and waited! Of course the check was cashed immediately(APRIL 28th, 1992). I called once a month and everytime got the same thing. DELAYS! DELAYS! DELAYS! Finally in March of 1993 I was fed up with the delay nonsense and demanded a refund. Jim Allen said that he was having financial trouble and could not issue a refund til the end of the month. I thought nothing of it and figured that since I have waited this long for the product, why not a couple of weeks for a refund. Well. Here we are May 10th (2 months later) and no refund. Calls to FAST TECHNOLOGY only lead to frustration. All you get is an answering machine and no return phone calls. It sure looks to me that JIM ALLEN does not know how to handle a business. And I feel sorry for all the other people he is dragging along the same path. Of course, I have already contacted the Better Business Bureau of Pennsylvania. They said that I would have to fill out some forms and they will get right on it. I am not happy with the situation at all. And for a man who keeps such a high profile in the ATARI COMMUNITY, it is pathetic!

Robert A. Chopick

GENIE: R.CHOPICK DELPHI: BCHOPICK
WORK: 717-288-6140

Atari-ST RoundTable
Category 18, Topic 11
Message 2 Wed May 19, 1993
LEPULLEY [Lloyd Pulley] at 21:52 EDT

Bob,

I’m sorry to hear about your problem. I’ve always gotten everything that I ordered from Jim. Have you tried leaving him E-Mail? He seems to stop by around midnight (EDT) to take part in Topic 2 - maybe he’ll see your E-Mail during one of his visits and take care of your problem.

Lloyd E. Pulley, Sr.

Atari-ST RoundTable
Category 18, Topic 11
Message 3 Thu May 20, 1993
J.ALLEN27 [FAST TECH] at 17:27 EDT

I would like to apologize to Mr Chopick, and the other people awaiting refunds. I told him in March I was in financial difficulty and that hasn’t changed. There have been almost no sales since February, and what few T25’s and one Turbo030 that has been sold all went to pay refunds. There are 4 people still waiting, all here on GEnie. In the last 4 months I have had to

borrow money to pay the phone bill and GEnie bill, and have not been able to call back everyone who calls in, the phone bill was running $700/month and with no sales I simply cannot generate those kinds of bills any longer.

I have taken on an engineering job that will get me back on my feet in the next ’couple weeks, and I will be able to clear up the remaining refunds near the end of the month, all I can ask is your patience.

As it is, I do not even have the funds needed to ship the Tiny030’s, but I will be able to do that too in a few more days. So for folks awaiting Tiny030’s, please don’t panic and all ask for refunds, the boards are nearly done and ready to go and I’m desperately working to get them shipped as soon as possible.

If I were If I were able to I would give the refunds immediately, but there is simply no money, at all. I have a stack of bills totalling over $6000, so I have not even been able to pay my own personal bills for 4 months, the only bill I have paid is the phone, GEnie, my health insurance, and my car insurance. I I were going to go out of business the first thing I’d do is drop the phone, and the GEnie, it is because this is only a temporary difficulty that I have borrowed from relatives to maintain them.

I remember, a few months back, when a user...not even a customer...came into the Fast Technology topic, and chastized me and complained that people were waiting for Tinys. At that point 12 people cancelled thier orders, and I refunded thier orders, and it cleaned out my remaining cash reserves. It left me broke, which I still am. I hope that this topic will not do the same, I can’t imagine it getting worse, but the world can suprise you. All I can ask is that users waiting for their Tiny030’s hang in for just a week or two more.

Thank you, James C. Allen, Fast Technology

Atari-ST RoundTable
Category 18, Topic 11
Message 4 Thu May 20, 1993
R.CHOPICK [Bob] at 20:44 EDT

Jim,
I am sorry for your situation and I HOPE it IMPROVES. BUT! Not answering the phone and NOT getting back to CUSTOMERS who you have TAKEN money from is SIMPLY bad BUSINESS. I am a MANAGER of a computer store and believe me in a market with such LOW profit margins the thing that MAKES or brakes you is CUSTOMER SERVICE! You DON’T take someone’s MONEY and ignore phone calls. Anyway. CALL ME TOLL FREE 1-800-456-5689!

BOB CHOPICK

Atari-ST RoundTable
Category 18, Topic 11
Message 6 Thu May 20, 1993
DARLAH [RT~SYSOP] at 21:44 EDT

Jim may get a bit ’emotional’ at times but honest, I have always found him.

Sorry to hear about your problems. It appears in this economy most people are feeling it.

Please keep us aware of your progress.

Sincerely,
>>Darlah

Editor Note:

More of Darlah's ever so, "even handed handling of the RT, unbiased and completely fair across the boards". NOT!

Atari-ST RoundTable
Category 18, Topic 11
Message 8 Fri May 21, 1993
ALGORHYTHM [DanielKeller] at 05:56 EDT

No, I won't add my testimonial on Jim's character to this list, but only because I haven't personally dealt with him. I will say this, though: Bob, I can understand your frustration at not being responded to.....I've been through a similar situation with another ST-based company, which is still not resolved to my satisfaction. BUT---I think it's very important to choose your words carefully, since what you say in a public forum can have a profound effect on the business and careers of people who are dedicated to a difficult market. This is particularly true if you elect to START a topic with the expressed intent of flaming on someone....undoubtedly, there are companies that deserve this treatment. But judging by the (A) many testimonials in his favor, and (B) more importantly, his quick response to you here, I doubt if he's one of them.

Best of luck, Jim.

The most important point to remember is the damage such inflammatory posts can cause. As Jim Allen states;

> "I remember, a few months back, when a user...not even a customer...came into the Fast Technology topic, and chastized me and complained that people were waiting for Tinys. At that point 12 people cancelled thier orders, and I refunded thier orders, and it cleaned out my remaining cash reserves." Folks, this is exactly how it occurs, the mere fact that mention is made of possible problems a "run on the company" usually happens.

The next most severe incident is to find the electronic banking services are dropping the charging merchant's credit card acceptance privileges because of too many "charge-backs" (customer refund requests). Not to mention the problems that can arise when the charges to customer credit cards are made through other merchant account terminals than that of the actual seller. These problems can all pop up at once when public complaints are made to the bank where the credit card was issued. The electronic banking services can spot a problem long before it becomes a public spectacle. They will act immediately if elements of the merchant agreement are not being followed as outlined in the agreement. Especially

the clause prohibiting the posting of sales for another merchant on a contract terminal unless of course, its previously agreed upon. All it takes is one customer complaint in this type case. It is a breach of contract and can cause immediate cancellation of the accepting/charging merchant's terminal access privilege.

Its really smart to use either email or all the patience one can possibly muster in these situations as its in the best interests of all other involved parties to do so. It'll give the merchant the much needed additional time to satisfy his outstanding orders, while allowing the merchant to continue doing business thus, helping the already meager cash flow in this dying, if not dead, Atari marketplace. It makes no sense to try and force the merchant out of business by making a "loud public outcry or spectacle" of the situation. Although, in recent months this seems to have been the case. As a result, certain folks will be satisfied and others well.. they'll be satisfied but it will take more time than originally anticipated. Hopefully, these matters will be dealt with swiftly and to everyone's satisfaction. The only recognizable problem noticed at this time, is the viability of third party products designed and ordered over a year ago. After all, the company itself (Atari) is busily introducing a new computer line, (the Falcons), which is excessively late and the platform itself is losing developers left and right. Perhaps a systematic approach to refunding those users who ordered and pre-paid for product as opposed to trying to fulfill the "original" orders would be the "right thing to do".

Bob Chopak, of Computer Garden, posted the messages above concerning his pre-paid order. STReport acknowledges he has been more than patient and should have at least been given a return call or two. When we called Mr. Chopak for an interview he was quite accommodating and straight forward. It seems his biggest complaint was that he, like many of others with similar complaints, was not kept informed of the progress of his order nor were his telephone calls returned. As STReport continues to receive information relative this situation, we shall keep the userbase informed of the progress being made in resolving the problem. STReport adds, that we fully expect Mr. Chopak and the others who've complained to fully satisfied in as short a time as possible under the present conditions.

\\\---///

STReport is compiling a list of those persons who've prepaid either Fast Technology or ISD/DMC Marketing (Fast Tech's Canadian Rep, owned and operated by Nathan Potechin (Darlah's husband and Co-Sysop in the ST RT)) for the Tiny Turbo and the T-25 accelerators. The majority of users who have prepaid have been waiting for either almost a year or a little over a year for delivery of the products or a refund. Its pretty sad when one sees the very same harpies swing into gear to heap praise on a firm that's basically being accused of doing the very same thing the other firms listed above were accused of doing. Taking advance payments and making slow deliveries. Did they all receive the very same exposure and treatment in Nathan and Darlah's ST RT on GEnie?? NOPE! The recently opened message area in Category 18, Topic 11 of Nathan and Darlah's ST RT on GEnie is already closed! How very even handed and fair of them. It couldn't possibly be because the shoe is now on another foot and it fits far to tight?

A number of the users are willing to wait until the end of June, a number of others are already banding together to take some type of recovery action. STReport is accepting the names and information of those who have prepaid for product and received nothing so far. Register your name with

STReport either in Email on any of the services or call 904-783-3319 to do so.

As a recipient of the Nathan & Darlah Show "treatment" in the ST RT, I will unhesitantly make note that I feel they closed the topic to gain some sort of relief from the possible headaches expected to come from such open, derogatory public complaints. And of course, the ensuing flood of expected refund requests. Regardless of the reasons brought forth, ethically speaking, the topic about the lack of delivery on the part of Fast Technology should have been left open as has been the case for ABCO or, on the other hand, BOTH topics should have been closed. This is not the case, the Fast Tech topic was quickly closed, the Abco topic is not. This is a classic example of both a conflict of interest (Nathan being the Canadian rep for Fast Tech) and biased actions on the part of Darlah and her husband Nathan. How long is this outrage going to be allowed to continue? Truly, its time for equal, non-partial treatment for all to return to the Atari ST RT on GEnie. Until some personnel changes are made this is highly unlikely to occur.

> CONFLICT OF INTEREST II STR FOCUS! UNFAIR COMPETITVE PRACTICES EXPOSED!
  """"""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""

UNFAIR ADVANTAGES & COMPETITIVE PRACTICES EXPOSED!

by Ralph F. Mariano

an editorial essay

Why have a number of people begun to ask WHERE IS LEXICOR on GEnie? Now, STReport must ask.. Why have the free flags in the ST RT for Lexicor been cancelled without prior notification? How long before the Lexicor category ultimately disappears? Is this another case of Nathan and Darlah’s unbiased and even handed dealings? I think not! It appears as if the old, "if you don’t do things OUR way we’ll drub you out of the ST RT and ultimately out of business." Since Nathan and Darlah rule over all the Atari areas including the Developer RT, the IAAD RT and of course, the ST RT, this can honestly be seen as a solid, irrefutable conflict of interest. Its not correct, ethically speaking, to be governed by those you directly compete with in business! This is truly sad to see. This is exactly the case with Lexicor. Especially with Nathan talking about Lexicor’s Seilor and this reporter being "in bed together" during last wednesday night’s open conference in the ST RT. (One can only wonder what is meant by THAT SNIDE remark. I have a capture of the comment) It would appear the abuse of sysop power by both Nathan and Darlah has created an extremely hostile atmosphere for the users, developers and members of the press who would dare to disagree with their tactics. ’Tis time for a change.

STReport called Lexicor’s Lee Seilor for an interview regarding the current state of affairs between Lexicor and Nathan, Darlah and GEnie.

Lexicor's Mr. Seilor read a prepared statement to this reporter. Part of which we present now;

"There is an inherent conflict of interest for any Atari Business in the ST RT on GEnie. Lexicor is taking all appropriate and proper actions to seek remedies. Lexicor is aware that at least one message with regard to Lexicor Products has been severely Censored and on information and belief other messages have been deleted from the message areas. "Lexicor has been advised that certain messages relating to their business will not be allowed." Seilor said.

In this reporter's humble opinion, a Canadian Competitor of Lexicor's, or any other business/developer, who is in control of areas Atari requires developers to be part of could easily be considered a conflict of interest in the least and indeed could very possibly be looked upon as "restraint of trade and/or control of US citizens' business interests by a foreign person(s) or entity." Further, it is our opinion, that the practice of bestowing upon Nathan powers in the Atari Areas on GEnie is wrong. It appears to be a flagrant disregard of business ethics and a conflict of interest. If he is to have these powers then it stands to reason that every business and developer should also have them as that would guarantee an even competitive platform. Also if its to continue, he then continues to enjoy free access and a governing position over those he is in direct and indirect competition with. It an unfair competitive advantage. This is not good at all especially since he can do most anything he wishes with files, messages, people's posts, people's access privileges etc., As an example Lexicor was also dropped from the IAAD, because of some trumped up charges of violation of non-disclosure. Again, as a recipient of the "special treatment" all of this sounds ever so familiar. One can only wonder how many others have silently gone down this very same unjust path before.

As an aside, the Federal Trade Commission Act has given the Federal Trade Commission Authority to pursue unfair trade practices of all types both direct and indirect. Anyone can obtain a copy of the Rule and Regulations by sending a request to the Commission in Washington D.C. or at any of their regional offices.

> BLUE RIDGE ATARIFEST'93 STR SHOW NEWS "The Summertime Atari Event!"
  """""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""

1993 Blue Ridge ATARIFEST
"""""""""""""""""""""""""""

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION
"""""""""""""""""""""""""""

The Blue Ridge Atari Computer Enthusiasts (BRACE) and Computer Studio

invite you to participate in the Fourth Annual Blue Ridge AtariFest in beautiful Asheville, North Carolina. Show dates and times are:

Saturday July 24, 1993 10am - 6pm
Sunday July 25, 1993 Noon - 5pm

Just as in previous years, we have arranged for FREE Booth space for Atari developers!! (We're only requesting the donation of a door prize).

We can promise both developers and show-goers an energetic and exciting show with as enthusiastic a crowd of Atarians as you'll find anywhere, plus the support of Computer Studio in the mall.

We're once again taking over the Courtyard Shop (mall) area at Westgate Shopping Center for the show (location of Computer Studio), plus the use of vacant store spaces for seminar sessions. Seminar sessions will be 45 minutes in length, and developers are welcome to conduct a seminar on their product line or approved topic of their choice (seminar sessions are limited, so first come, first served).

This year's show dates also coincide with Asheville's annual Bele Chere street festival, when downtown Asheville is closed to vehicular traffic and becomes what must be one of the largest street fairs in the country. Westgate Shopping Center is one of the primary Park-and-Ride shuttle centers for transporting people to and from downtown, and we've arranged to have the shuttle service pick up at the front entrance of the mall and drop off at the rear entrance, so everyone taking the service from Westgate WILL walk through the AtariFest exhibition area sometime during the day. This will be a great opportunity to showcase Atari and Atari related software and peripherals, and introduce them to people who aren't already Atari owners. Bringing in NEW blood is the key to the growth of this platform, and this will be our opportunity to begin that process with a captive audience.

Additional discussions of the show, as well as confirmations of your participation, are welcome in GEnieMail and in the Blue Ridge AtariFest topic 13 in Category 11 here on GEnie.

HOPING TO HEAR FROM YOU SOON.
HAPPY ATARI COMPUTING.
IT'S HAPPENING IN ASHEVILLE!

Where: Westgate Shopping Center - Asheville, N.C.

Take any major highway into Asheville (US 19-23, US 26 or I-40) to the I-240 loop, then take the "Westgate/Hilton Inn Drive exit" into the Westgate Shopping Center parking lot.

When: 24-25, July 1993
Time: 10:am to 6:pm SAT
12 Noon 'til 5pm SUN

Points of contact:

Come for a day or come for the weekend,
but do come and enjoy yourself.

Great Smokies Hilton Resort Hilton Inn Drive (704)254-3211
Toll-free reservation phone number 1-800-733-3211

Radisson One Thomas Wolf Plaza (704)252-8211
Rate: $62.00 per room (1-4 people)

====== Additional Hotel / Motel Information ==========

Days Inn	I-26 and Airport Road	(704)684-2281
	I-40 Exit 55	(704)298-5140
Econo Lodge	US 70 East, I-40 Exit 55	(704)298-5519
Holiday Inn	275 Smoky Park Hwy	(704)667-4501
	Toll-free reservation phone number	1-800-HOLIDAY
Red Roof Inn	I-40 and US 19-23 Exit 44	(704)667-9803
	Toll-free reservation phone number	1-800-843-7663
Budget Motel	I-40 Exit 44 (Enka-Chandler) West Asheville Exit	(704)665-2100
Best Western Asheville Central	22 Woodfin St	(704)253-1851

========= Local Bed & Breakfast lodging Information =========

Aberdeen Inn	64 Linden Ave	(704)254-9336
Albemarle Inn	86 Edgemont Road	(704)255-0027
Applewood Manor	62 Cumberland Circle	(704)254-2244
The Bridle Path Inn	Lockout Road	(704)252-0035
Cairn Brae B & B	217 Patton Mountain Rd	(704)252-9219
Carolina B & B	177 Cumberland Ave	(704)254-3608
Cedar Crest Victorian Inn	674 Biltmore Ave	(704)252-1289
Corner Oak Manor	53 St. Dunstan	(704)253-3525
Cornerstone Inn	230 Pearson Dr	(704)253-5644
Flint Street Inn	100 & 116 Flint Street	(704)253-6723
The Lion and The Rose	276 Montford Ave	(704)255-7673
The Ray House B & B	83 Hillside St	(704)252-0106
Reed House	119 Dodge St	(704)274-1604
The Wright Inn	235 Pearson Drive	(704)251-0789] (1-800-552-5724)

A more complete listing of Bed & Breakfasts can be obtained through the Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce.

Reservations should be made immediately, as July is the height of our tourist season.

========== CAMP GROUNDS ==========

(reservations are a must during this time of season):

Mount Pisgah:
About 20 miles southwest of Asheville on the Blue Ridge Parkway at mile post 408.6 (National Park Service). 690 acres. Elevation 5000'. One of the nicest campgrounds in Western North Carolina. 67 tent sites, 70 RV sites. For reservations: P.O.Box 749, Watnesville, N.C. 28786; phone (704) 235-9109. No showers. Groceries and restaurant. Nature program. 14 day

stay limit.

Lake Powhatan:
4 miles south of Asheville on State road 191, 3.5 miles west on SR 806. 30 acres. 98 tent/rv sites. Reservation available thru Mistix 1-800-283-CAMP. Disposal station. No showers. Swimming; lifeguard; fishing; nature trails; bicycles. 14-day stay limit.

While in the area, you might want to consider a little sightseeing, and include a visit to the Biltmore House here in Asheville (the largest single family residence ever built in the U.S.--its a "castle"). A visit to the Biltmore can be a full-day's activity as you will want to view the house, visit the winery, and walk some of the grounds and gardens.

Hours:

The House 9 am to 6pm The Gardens 9am to 7pm
Conservatory 9am to 5:30pm
The Winery Monday-Saturday 11am to 7pm Sunday 1pm to 7pm

Other areas of interest include; the Thomas Wolf home (adjacent to the Raddison), the Blue Ridge Parkway and Folk Art Center. A drive up the Blue ridge Parkway to enjoy the higher elevations and incredible views of our mountains. Perhaps a hike up to Mount Pisgah and look back down to Asheville(you can see Mt. Pisgah from most anywhere in Asheville). A short drive from Mt. Pisgah will take you to Sliding Rock (for those of you travelling with kids who are still kids at heart), the Cradle of Forestry (first forest school in the country), waterfalls, trout hatchery, etc. For the adventurous, white water rafting on the Natahala River near Bryson City (approx one and a half hours from here).

There's obviously loads more to see and do around Asheville (in addition to the Blue Ridge AtariFest and a visit to Computer Studio :-). If any of y'all would like maps and additional tourist info of the area I might suggest contacting the Chamber of Commerce:

Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce
151 Haywood Street
P.O. Box 1010
Asheville, NC 28802
704-258-6111 FAX: (704)251-0926

> NVN WANTS YOU! STR InfoFile Another Network Supports Atari!
"""""""""""""""""""""""""""""

NVN - THE NEW KID ON THE BLOCK!
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The Atari computer platforms has support on yet another top notch telecommunications service! National Videotex Network (NVN) maintains an area just for our favorite computers. Type GO ATARI

Order an extended NVN Membership of 6 or 12 months, pay for it in

advance and receive a bonus in connect time at no additional charge. Choose from two subscription plans:

6-Month Membership
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Pay just $30 for a 6-month Membership and receive a usage credit that entitles you to $15 of connect-time in the Premium services of your choice. Your total savings using this plan would be over $20!*

12 Month Membership
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Pay $50 for a full year's Membership and get even more free time on-line. We'll give you a $25 usage credit to use in your favorite premium services or try out new ones. You could save as much as $45.*

NVN now offers Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). For a $2 per month service charge, customers may have their NVN online charges automatically debited from their personal checking accounts. Please contact Client Services for this new feature!

For more information about either of these plans..
Please, give us a call at;
1-800-336-9096.

*** 9600 BAUD USERS! ***
*** $6/hour non-prime time - $9/hour prime time ***

You can join NVN one of two ways...
By voice phone 1-800-336-9096 (Client Services)
or via
modem phone 1-800-336-9092.

NVN Highlights
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1. For the newcomers....
2. *** RECEIVE A $10 USAGE CREDIT FOR EACH NEW MEMBER YOU BRING US!! ***
3. Get your copy of DOS 6.0 Upgrade - FREE -!
4. HALF PRICE SALE for Training files for all of April. No fooling...
5. TV Buffs! Win a free hour online in the Television Forum during April!
6. The Fishing Forum needs anglers to test new fishing lures...FREE!!!
7. Check out the new Technology & Quality Management Forum...
8. Win free connect time and other prizes playing Fantasy Baseball!
9. Connect with other Teens - Wednesday nights at 9:00 pm (EDT)...
10. TAX TIME...ARGH!!! Type <GO ACCOUNTING> for immediate relief!
11. Expand your knowledge of law from the comfort of your home...
12. Refer to NVN for all of your reference needs...
13. Enjoy NVN services while saving time and money!

- Sunnyvale, Ca ANOTHER ROARING LOSS DECLARED!

Atari Corp. reported a TWO MILLION DOLLAR loss as first quarter salesof the company's computers and video games slumped. The loss of three cents per share in the three months ended March 31 came on sales of $10.1 Million, down sharply from $44.1 million for the same period in 1992, when Atari lost $13.8 million, or 24 cents per share.

- Chicago, IL FALCON 040 RUMORED IN THE "WORKS"

According to ever famous "super snoop" the Falcon 040 is in the distant future called Fall'93 or thereabouts. Its reported to be the fabled two piece design so desired by most everyone and... to be the high stepping machine the "power users" crave. Will it make its debut at Comdex'93? Time will tell.

> STR Mail Call "...a place for the readers to be heard"
  """""""""""""

STReport's MailBag
"""""""""""""""""""

Messages * NOT EDITED * for content

From Delphi's Atari areas

54507 8-MAY 12:50 8-bit Atari
RE: Miscellany (Re: Msg 54499)
From: OCS To: KAMARO_KID

> The company (Atari) is supposed to cater to us, not the inverse! We
> are the customers after all!

This indeed is one of the wisest sentences I have read in here for quite some time. Applause!!!!

> I do not think that Atari Corp. has purchased this entire sig for
> their own private amusement.

If they had, they would probably have kicked me and some others out quite some time ago <grin>

Oliver

55004 22-MAY 08:17 8-bit Atari
RE: Miscellany (Re: Msg 54507)
From: RMARIANO To: OCS

Oliver,

Believe me, they are trying all the time to boot out those who don't "dance the Atari dance" or "sing the Atari song". Its pretty blatant. Even AEO is getting into the fray now. Take note of which online service's sign-up offer is obvious by its absence from the last issue. Its getting bad.... real bad. For a company that's on its knees economically and marketshare speaking they sure are arrogant.

Kamaro Kid certianly does have it right, Atari has lost grasp of its intent and purpose... they are supposed to cater to the needs of their customers instead they do the exact opposite. Seems I recall somebody saying "Atari firmly believes in HOORAY FOR US & THE HECK WITH YOU" a few years ago. The protests were far, wide and loud. Sure looks like the guy was right. Actually, the minister if disinformation & co., are very busy burning their bridges behind them. Very Foolish.. <sigh>

Ralph @ STReport International Online Magazine

55005 22-MAY 08:26 8-bit Atari
RE: Miscellany (Re: Msg 54511)
From: RMARIANO To: ANALOG4

"This SIG is firmly a tool of Atari Corp.? I not sure what that means, exactly, but I can assure you that, while we appreciate Atari's presence here, Atari has no control over what happens here whatsoever. You can say what you want, as long as everybody gets treated with respect."

If anyone can say this, I can. This Online area, the one Clay speaks of is not under the control of Atari in any way at all. It basically is under the control of the users and moderated by Clay and his assistants. I might add, its a pleasure to attend and actively participate in this Atari area. Every so often it becomes evident that the "powers that be" in a SIG

are really doing a great job.

The best way to see they are doing a great job is the level of transparency they offer the users in the sig. If they are forever trying to form opinions, control message strings etc., they are not transparent at all. In the case of these Atari SIGS Clay and the gang are doing an excellent job and deserve to be commended for their fine approach to moderating and vibrant and lively Atari area that gives every appearance of growing larger every month. Moderating and NOT influencing is the key to a successful SIG no matter which platform or what format.

Job well done Folks!

From CIS Atari Fora..

#: 86181 S1/Forum Business
26-May-93 04:56:15
Sb: #86176-20 Questions
Fm: MYLES COHEN 71570,3142
To: Sysop*Brad Hill 71333,2165

I went into SAM ASH yesterday and asked if they had any FALCONS for demo or sale...

They said that there was only one in the store... still packed in its box and for sale at $1289.00...

There were no Demos set up...

I assume that this model was supposed to be their dealer demo...but was never unpacked...

If you hurry, you can snap it up...

Across the street at MANNY'S...They had one demo unit on display and would take orders...price was also $1289.00...they would not commit themselves on delivery dates or whether there would be any other configurations in the future...this one was minimal...4 meg with the 85 meg IDE drive...they seemed doubtful that there would even be a future for the FALCON...

#: 86309 S17/Community Square
28-May-93 12:48:10
Sb: #86308-#84816-Gemulator
Fm: bob wilson 72355,1637
To: Dave Groves[Diabetes] 76703,4223

I have not bothered to port it yet. GFA for windows is bug filled and incredibly badly documented. If you look at the sample programs, many if not most use commands which you will not find any where in the docs. Their section of WINAPC has been silent since the compiler came out and the bugs started pouring in. I have been trying to get SPEEDO GDOS working with B/STAT but to little avail. I thought that I had tracked it down to a conflict with WARP 9 but no such luck. In all regards SPEEDO seems simply like FSM with a different font technology. All of the incompatabilities of FSM seem to be present.

From GEnie's MAC RT....

Category 40, Topic 5
Message 62 Thu May 27, 1993
J.BUDIL [Jonathan] at 01:41 EST

Of course, when funds are low, decision-making becomes really simple. ;-)

Glad you're having so much fun, Swampy. <GRIN>

--Jonathan in Normal

Category 40, Topic 5
Message 63 Thu May 27, 1993
D.D.MARTIN [Swampy] at 19:35 EDT

JONATHAN!!

Fun? I'm having a ball! I got Quick Keys installed today. It took reading the manual to figure out how to do it without having to live with all their pre-existing macros. Shades of CodeHead stuff now! %^). I also had fun with After Dark. I just put the Fish into outer space with the Warp modual!

I'm starting to get the hang of Claris Works. PageMaker is pretty easy too. After years of PageStream at least I know the features I need and can find them in the PM Index... LOL

Hugs...Swampy

Category 40, Topic 5
Message 64 Thu May 27, 1993
GSCOTT-MOORE [Gerry] at 20:50 EDT

Swampy:

I can't believe it took me so long to get off my butt and get QuickKeys. What a delight. QE and Now Utilities have made my MacUsage blissful.

Gerry

Category 40, Topic 5
Message 65 Fri May 28, 1993
R.NOAK [Randy] at 01:14 EDT

Hmmm. I got a QK II demo disk here somewhere. I'd better check this out.

Randy @ Southlake, Inc.

Category 40, Topic 5
Message 66 Fri May 28, 1993
J.BUDIL [Jonathan] at 01:49 EST

Gerry:

I've got *no* excuse for not using QuicKeys avidly yet--because I won it during my first RTC (within my first few days) at this roundtable. Well, there was the matter of a Master's thesis...but that's old news now. I guess that whenever I have free computer time, I can't help myself: GEnie is a magnet! :) Who has time for installations?

SWAMPY!!

I gotta admit, I love how you always address me with all-caps and two exclamation marks. It makes me feel so significant. ;) Yes, After Dark's a real hoot. I highly reccommend "The Art of Darkness," by Peachpit Press.

It is a small book that tells stories about all of the modules, is officially recognized as _the_ A.D. book by Berkeley Systems, and has nine new knockout modules from the company, including fractal forest, spin brush, and my personal April Fool's favorite, Bogglins.

I know PageMaker *very* well, but you've got the jump on Q.K. :)

--Jonathan in Normal

From the FNET....

Conf : STReport Online
Msg# : 24005/24005 Lines: 4 Read: 1
Sent : May 23, 1993 at 9:35 AM
Recv : May 24, 1993
To : Ralph Mariano
From : Eric Palm at Fnet Node 647, E.H.C.R.- Node 647 Ct
Subj : the size of your....

Wow Ralph, you've got some hefty ST Reports coming through. It's all I can do to laser print each issue and to read them (It's my only source of what's happening with Atari without all the bull I get when reading the message bases). Keep up the good work.

Conf : STReport Online
Msg# : 24004/24005 Lines: Extended Read: 1
Sent : May 23, 1993 at 3:36 PM
To : Wolf
From : Rich Calsada at Fnet Node 669, Dateline: Atari
Subj : ERRONEOUS REPORTS?

W> Yes, there is a degree of truth in your posts regarding "things
W> Atari", but you err when you run out of facts, and report as fact,
W> information you invented to fill in the blanks. This is no
W> different from what the good people at "Inquirer", "Star", and about
W> a dozen other tabloids. But, at least the tabloids give you
W> interestingly retouched photos to look at.

What's really amusing about this is the same thing can be said about Atari Corporation and they don't seem to get minutely picked over like Ralph does. It's pretty easy to see Atari's hidden agenda -- Usually no product, like the bull sh-t about why fsm gdos was'nt out and that was week after week with a new excuse.

So now we come to your nit picking of the Atari Explorer affair as reported by Ralph. My feeling is Ralph got the gist of the story right, which people might be interested, unfortunately I'm sure we will get more post on how Ralph screwed it up, when in fact it looks like it was fairly acurately reported.

The shame of it is, that if you took Atari to task over in the Atari

net like you are doing to Ralph, it would'nt take long before your
originating node would be locked out of the net.

So what's Ralph's hidden agenda? Maybe its being a little pissed at watching a company screw over a very loyal user base that's supported them for years. It's a good thing all those Falcons came in, in late October 92 like a Trameil said they would. And just thing you can now buy a similiarly equipt MAC with a color monitor for the same price as a Falcon without a monitor. Ah yes "Power without the Price"

~ MMST 2.65|R: $$$ not found -- A)bort, R)efinance, D)eclare bankruptcy

Msg# : 3228/3245 Lines: 17 Read: 1
Sent : May 26, 1993 at 12:02 PM
To   : Don Liscombe
From : Bob Brodie at Fnet Node 319, Atari Base USA
Subj : Re: <3222> Important News!

In reply to:

> Glad to see you back in the base, Bob. I know how busy things get at
> times. Is there any information you can give us, or tentative dates, on
>
> 1) The Jaguar release?
> 2) New Atari computers (upgrade from the Falcon)

Hi Don, thank you for the welcome back! I've missed being here.

The Jaguar will be released in the Fall, in time for Christmas. Sorry, I have no comment about other computers to follow the Falcon030. We don't have enough of those on the street yet to worry about the next batch in my department anyway. :)

regards,

Bob Brodie

"""

STReport's "EDITORIAL CARTOON"
""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""

> A "Quotable Quote"   "A NEW SmokeScreen & Diversion!"
"""""""""""""""""

"SMART REMARKS & CUTSY EXPRESSIONS...
NEVER ACHIEVE ANYTHING EXCEPT....
TO DRAW ATTENTION TO REALITY!"

...Broomhilda's Bedroom Follies

"""

> DEALER CLASSIFIED LIST STR InfoFile * Dealer Listings *
  """"""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""" ---------------

ABCO COMPUTER CONSULTANTS
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P.O. Box 6672
Jacksonville, Florida 32236-6672
Est. 1985
1-904-783-3319
ATARI-AMIGA-PC-CLONES-MAC
HARDWARE, SOFTWARE & SUPPLIES

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COMPUTER STUDIO
==========
WESTGATE SHOPPING CENTER
40 Westgate Parkway - Suite D
Asheville, NC 28806
1-800-253-0201
Orders Only
1-704-251-0201
Information
Authorized Atari Dealer

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MEGABYTE COMPUTERS
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907 Mebourne
Hurst, TX 76053
1-817-589-2950
Authorized Atari Dealer

"""

SAN JOSE COMPUTER
==========
1278 Alma Court
San Jose, CA. 95112
1-408-995-5080
Authorized Atari Dealer

"""

CompuSeller West
==========
220-1/2 W. Main St.
St. Charles, IL., 60174
Ph. (708) 513-5220
Authorized Atari Dealer

"""

(DEALERS; to be listed here, please drop us a line.)

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STReport International Online Magazine
-* [S]ilicon [T]imes [R]eport *-

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